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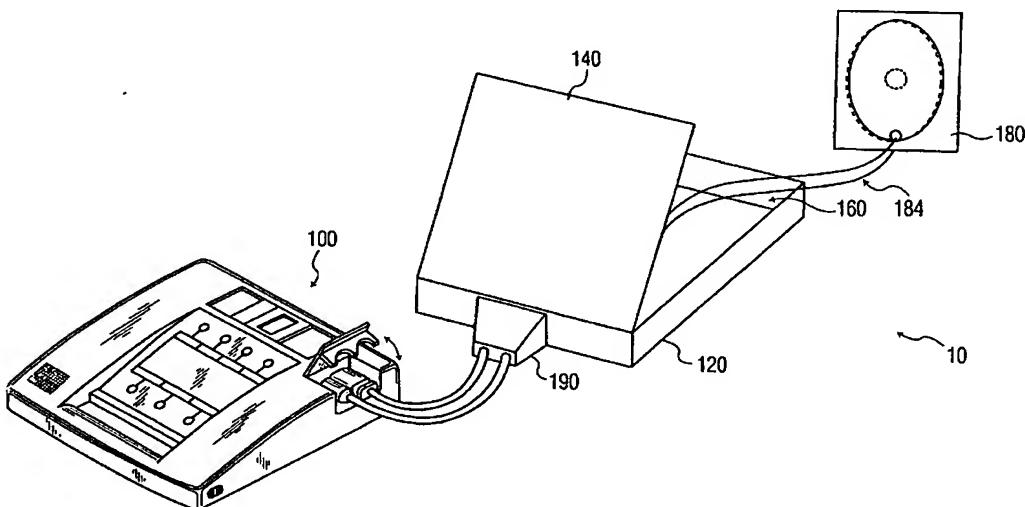
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(54) Title: METHOD OF DETECTING WHEN ELECTRODE PADS HAVE BEEN HANDLED OR REMOVED FROM THEIR PACKAGE



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(57) Abstract: Handling or removal of a pair of pre-connected defibrillator electrode pads from their package, or a compartment in the defibrillator, is detected in order to effectively time the issuance of prompts to guide the user. Detection occurs when an impedance level between the electrode pads varies sufficiently over time to indicate occurrence of the handling or removal event. The pads are preferably configured to leverage variability in the impedance that results from bending of pads during handling or removal.



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